

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 5, and 7 through 44 are pending in the present application. Claims 25 through 37 are withdrawn from consideration in view of applicant's election of claims in response to Examiner's Provisional Restriction Requirement dated March 1, 2005. Accordingly, claims 1 through 5, 7 through 17, 19 through 24 and 38 through 44 are subject to examination. In the Final Office Action dated July 14, 2005, the Examiner allowed claims 10 through 24, and 38 through 44. Claims 8 and 9 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner rejected claims 1 through 5, and claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 2,397,415 to Ghez, et al. ("Ghez").

The Examiner is thanked for his careful review of the present application and for his indication of allowable subject matter. It is understood, however, that applicants do not agree with the Examiner's rejections based upon the cited art, and are amending claims in the present application solely to expedite the issuance of the allowable subject matter. Accordingly, applicants reserve the right to present any of the foregoing claims in non-amended form in any continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 8. Claim 8 is cancelled, and claim 9 is amended to depend from claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is now in allowable form. Claims depending from amended claim 1 are also now allowable based upon the allowable form of the base claim and further in view of the additional limitations in the dependent claims.

Turning now to the Examiner's objections to the drawings, the Examiner has indicated that the reference numbers "13" and "15" in FIGURE 1 are used to identify the same element. Applicant respectfully points out that element 13 is designated with a lead line having an arrow. As provided in MPEP §608.02(r), "...a freestanding arrow...indicate[s] the entire section

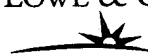
46020

CUSTOMER NUMBER

- 9 -

BING-I-1030ROA2

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM ^{PLLC}


701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4800
Seattle, Washington 98104
206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301

towards which it points...". Accordingly, in order to lend further clarity to FIGURE 1, the lead line is corrected to clearly show the arrow as freestanding.

With respect to the Examiner's objection to the Specification, applicants are amending the paragraph on page 5, beginning at line 22 to identify the location of the element 13.

With respect to the Examiner's claim objections, the original numbering of the claims in the present application has been restored. Claim 21 is also presently amended to provide the proper claim dependence.

Finally, non-elected claims 25 through 37 are cancelled without prejudice.

All claims are now in condition for allowance. If there remain any other issues that may be resolved telephonically, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}



Steven H. Arterberry
Registration No.: 46,314
Direct Dial: 206.957.2483

MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via first class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.08 on the date indicated below addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

September 14, 2005
Date of Deposit

Wendy Saxby
Wendy Saxby

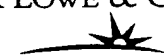
46020

CUSTOMER NUMBER

- 10 -

BING-1-1030ROA2

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}


701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4800
Seattle, Washington 98104
206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301